

FTR

To Whom it May Concern,

We are writing this email in support of Senate Bill (974) Health Insurance Coverage For Alternative Therapies For Autism: Mandate. Our names are Ian and Keren Schindelman, and our address is 202 Soundview Avenue, Unit 5, Stamford, CT 06902. Our phone number is 203 276 8864, and our email is kschindelman@gmail.com. Our 3 1/2 year old son has been receiving weekly DIR Floortime therapy through Family First in Connecticut since last April, and he has hugely benefited from this service model. His improved ability to develop and sustain relationships with other children, and to socialize with them appropriately, is a direct result of the floortime approach. He is thriving in his preschool setting with typical peers, and his interactions with us as his parents have been much richer and more robust. He is increasingly responding to our emotions and feelings, as he is doing with his friends as well. He is really playing with them now, and it is a pleasure to witness. We tried more traditional forms of behavioral therapy, but they were not appropriate for him, as they did not touch on his main concerns regarding his ability to appropriately relate to others emotionally. DIR Floortime is essential for his growth, and as such we strongly urge insurance companies to recognize such models as an integral part of treatment for children on the autistic spectrum and with other developmental issues.

Thank you,

Keren and Ian Schindelman